The motion was put and agreed to.

Mr. Krishnaswamy Rao then introduced the Bill and moved that the publication of the Bill be postponed until it is considered by the Select Committee.

Seconded by Mr. Thanu Pillai.

Carried.

Mr. Krishnaswamy Rao moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. Thanu Pillai, Prince, Rama Vurma and the mover.

Seconded by Mr. Nagam Aiya.

Carried.

THE GENERAL CLAUSES BILL.

Mr. Thanu Pillai.—As I have already remarked this is a purely technical Bill and is a close adaptation of the corresponding Madras Act. The Select Committee has not found it necessary to make any important alterations. The few modifications made are dwelt upon in the Report. I would touch on some of them.

In section 2—Interpretation-clause—the words 'now in force or' have been added in view to extend the definitions to existing Regulations. There is, it will be noted, the saving clause "unless there be something repugnant in the subject or context" which is a sufficient safe-guard against any possible misconstruction on this account.

The definition of the expression 'Our Government' has been dropped. The Select Committee thought it superfluous, the connotation being well understood.

'Standing crops' have been taken out of the category of immovable property. The object is to remove the needless inconvenience of following the elaborate procedure provided for dealing with immovable property in execution of decrees.

The definition of 'sign' has been modified so as to denote a 'mark' not only in the case of those who are unable to write their names but others as well. Even men of education and position, it is well-known, make use of such almost mystic marks—called Oppu—for their signature.

I do not think I need trouble the Council with any observations on the remaining amendments. With these remarks I beg to present the report of the Select Committee and move that it be published in the Gazette with the Bill as amended.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Council rose at 3-45 P. M.

SHUNGRASOOBYER,
President.

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